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begins Friday, Page 12



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AGAWAM

ADVERTISER NEWS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

September 10, 2015 | Vol. 37, No. 27 | \$1.00

www.agawamadvertiser.turley.com

Action!

Agawam Youth Football Association teams began their season on Saturday, hosting Chicopee. Pictured is the Juniors team in action. Inset, Cecelia Litz, 4, cheers on the Agawam Pee Wee football team. More photos on page 10.
TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGOY A. SCIBELLI



WILDLIFE

Don't fear the bear

Also, don't feed the bear, animal control officer says

By Michael J. Ballway
mballway@turley.com

The red-tagged black bear being spotted around town lately is exceptionally fearless around people, but there's still no reason to be afraid of bears in Agawam, the town's animal control officer said this week.

"These are not bears that will generally want to eat you," Allison Strong said on Tuesday. "You are far too much work for a bear. ... Bears are going to get into your trash, bears are going to eat from your bird-feeder, they're going to take the easy way out instead of having to hunt for their food."

Bear sightings in Agawam are common, and not only on the outskirts of Feeding Hills; they've been spotted in every neighborhood of town, including at Six Flags and on River Road on the eastern edge of Agawam. They're here to eat the food we leave out — birdseed, trash, even the food particles in unwashed jars in a re-

BEAR | page 9

MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR

'Rock' of building dept. retires after 38 years

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

One of the things Roger Kupec won't miss in retirement is the security alarm calls at two in the morning.

"It's happened to me many times," said Kupec, who retired last week as director of the town's building maintenance department.

Since January 2012 — when Kupec became director — he had been the person the Police Department would call whenever an alarm went off at a town building.

"Most of the time the calls were false alarms, but they had to be checked out," added Kupec, whose last day of work was Sept. 4.

The Agawam native graduated from Agawam High School in 1970. Kupec began his 38-year career with the town in April 1977 when he was hired as a custodian assigned to the junior high school.

"At the time, I was working for a landscaper — which I enjoyed — but the work was seasonal. I was looking for a more stable, full-time job," recalled Kupec, now 62.



Roger Kupec, who has served as Agawam's director of building maintenance since 2012, retired earlier this month after a 38-year career in town. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK

During his nearly four decades of town employment, Kupec has worked in almost every position in the Building Maintenance Department, which is responsible for the maintenance, repair, and upkeep of all school and town buildings.

While that experience gave him "a unique perspective" of the department, Kupec said the position he most enjoyed was serving as the department's deputy director for 16 years under former director Tony Albro.

Challenges and rewards

"Learning how the department and the buildings functioned under Tony's mentorship was one of the most rewarding opportunities of my life," said Kupec.

While serving as deputy director, Kupec had one of his most challenging experiences. It was about 10 years ago on the last school day before the Christmas break. The roof at Roberta G. Doring School — built in the 1920s

KUPEC | page 6

PUBLIC SAFETY

Open rotary means less Big E traffic in town

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

Big E traffic is always something residents in Agawam can do without.

This week, the town got a bit of a boost when the Massachusetts Department of Transportation announced construction on the rotary at Route 5, the Memorial Bridge and Route 147 in West Springfield will be suspended during the 17-day Big E, which begins next Friday.

Gerard Kiernan, director of operations for the Big E, said MassDOT informed him the jersey barriers will come down and there will be two full lanes of traffic at the rotary.

"The project there is not completed yet," said Kiernan. "But the lanes will be available for traffic during the Big E to help the traffic flow."

Kiernan also said MassDOT says construction will cease on Route 5, and two lanes will be accessible in both directions on that north-south highway.

"It will certainly help things with the traffic," said Kiernan,

who has been organizing traffic control for the Big E for the past 25 years.

That's welcome news for officials in Agawam, just over the bridge from the Big E grounds, where local streets — already the shortest route for traffic from the south — become the alternate route for everyone when Memorial Avenue backs up.

"We get a lot of traffic in Agawam on days like Connecticut Day," said Agawam Police Chief Eric Gillis. "So we get the traffic coming from the south through Southwick and Agawam."

In order to keep traffic flowing, at least two officers are stationed at the Main, Springfield and Suffield streets intersection, which is just over the Morgan-Sullivan Bridge from the Big E.

Gillis says more police staffing will be added as needed.

"We have to be flexible during the Big E," said Gillis. "We always have a couple of officers helping out at the bridge. Sometimes we place guys at Walnut Street and along Main Street, depending on

TRAFFIC | page 6



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20 PAGES

Genealogy Society to hold research clinics

The Western Massachusetts Genealogy Society will hold genealogy research clinics from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursdays, Sept. 17 and 24, at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St.

The Genealogy Society offers the library edition of "Ancestry," which includes Fold3 for military records research and News Bank to search for old newspaper articles that might contain information on ancestors.

Membership to the society is \$25 a year, which covers the society events and clinic, or \$10 per year for research clinics.

Neighbors' views sought on parking

City Council appears split on permanent ban for School St.

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

The Agawam City Council will delay a vote on "no parking" signs until it is satisfied that the residents of School Street have been properly informed about the proposed ordinance.

Based on their discussion Tuesday night, councilors appear to be split on the idea of installing the signs along the entire street.

Some councilors say they are necessary for safety and traffic control on the road that passes by School Street Park, which underwent a massive expansion earlier this year. One councilor, in particular, wants it voted on as soon as possible.

"The summer concerts may be over," said Councilor Gina Letellier. "But there are still soccer teams getting started now. There are games, tournaments, and jamborees and parking is at a premium at School Street Park."

Parking and proposed restrictions became an issue at the beginning of the summer when the second phase of School Street Park was completed. At that time, Councilor George Bitzas wanted "no parking" signs installed on Corey Street and School Street with an ordinance stipulating there would no park-

ing on those streets.

His proposal was questioned by the council's Community Relations Subcommittee. Members questioned whether it was fair to impose a permanent restriction on the property owners on those streets. The no-parking stipulation would have barred them from parking their own cars, and guests' cars, on the side of the road when they hold a party at home.

Right before the Summer-Fest concert series began, Police Chief Eric Gillis proposed an ordinance that would instead allow him to install temporary "no parking" signs during larger events, like the summer concert series. That idea was endorsed by the council, but ultimately rejected in August when it was found Gillis already had the power to place temporary signs under current town codes.

However, because of the bike path and other safety concerns, the council moved forward with signs and an ordinance that applied to School Street only.

Bitzas said he did not wish to see the signs on the road because he did not want to take away the rights of property owners to park cars on the side of the road for private parties or events.

"Let the police chief use the temporary signs on School

Street," Bitzas said.

Councilors Letellier and Robert Rossi both supported having the signs and were willing to go forward with a vote at the meeting. But Councilor Anthony Suffriti intervened, and questioned whether residents on the street were properly informed.

Councilor Cecelia Calabrese, the chair of the Community Relations Subcommittee, had said early in the discussion she received no feedback during the past month, but could not confirm the residents were actually informed of the proposal. "There were news articles about this," said Calabrese. "But the council did not send out a letter."

Suffriti proposed a letter be sent to all residents on the street. His proposal was supported by the entire council. Because of the time involved in getting a letter written and compiling a list of the residents along the road, the resolution was tabled until the first meeting in October.

If approved, the proposal would install signs on both sides of entirety of School Street. Some signs around Phelps Elementary School have already been installed by the town, but have not been approved by the council and are not enforceable by the police.

Agawam Advertiser News Obituary Policy

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$50, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

TVAA welcomes 'Côté Squiggle' artist on Sept. 16

The Tobacco Valley Artists Association opens its 2015-16 season Wednesday, Sept. 16, with featured artist Diana Lyn Côté, who will demonstrate her unique art of painting with an oil medium called Paintstiks.

Côté has perfected a unique application known as the "Côté Squiggle." She paints by calling upon her "inner three-year-old" and "scribbles" layer upon layer of erratic lines of color on the canvas. This eventually leads to a visual weaving of these individual lines into a textural tapestry that is both subtle and elegant. This is es-

pecially evident on larger canvases where the application holds equal importance to the study of light.

Understanding colors that make up the subtle or dramatic effects of light, and applying them in her unique way, is the focus of her journey as an artist. Côté has been showing her work for three decades with a diverse following of both corporate and private collectors.

She has also been teaching her painting method of more than 20 years as a visiting artist in schools, teaching private lessons to adults, and to many

artists groups throughout the region. Jack Richeson Co., the distributor of Shiva Paintstiks, has invited Côté to art conferences on both sides of the United States to demonstrate the unique qualities of this medium, and uses her images in their catalogs and advertising.

TVAA comprises 170 member artists throughout Connecticut and Massachusetts. TVAA regular meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. All are welcome.

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Town to hold Sept. 11 ceremony

Agawam will conduct a brief Sept. 11 remembrance ceremony at 9:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 11, in front of the Fire Department headquarters, 800 Main St. The ceremony will honor those who lost their lives in the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Speaking at the ceremony will be Fire Chief Alan Sirois; the Rev. Bill Hamilton, Fire Department chaplain; and the Rev. Tim Reed, executive pastor, Bethany Assembly of God.

Heritage Woods to hold weeklong open house

In honor of National Assisted Living Week, Heritage Woods Senior Living will hold open houses from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. all week beginning Monday, Sept. 14, running through Saturday, Sept. 19, at 462 Main St., Agawam. For more information, call 413-789-8332 or email nicole.wallace@genesishcc.com.

Class of '46 to host luncheon reunion

WEST SPRINGFIELD — The Agawam High School Class of 1946 will hold its "46-69" reunion luncheon Thursday, Oct. 8, in the Garden Room of the Monte Carlo Restaurant, 1020 Memorial Ave., West Springfield.

The day's events will begin with a social hour at 11:30 a.m., followed by a luncheon at 1 p.m. While 33 members have been lost, there are 42 classmates remaining from the Class of 1946, with 16 in attendance last year.

For more information, call Raoul Sands at 413-789-6733.

St. John parish craft fair slated for this Saturday

St. John the Evangelist Church will host a tag sale and craft fair in the parish center, 830 Main St., Agawam, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 12. The day's events will also include a bake sale. For more information, call Jackie at 860-212-9950.

Pie contest, tag and bake sale at Thomas Smith House

The Agawam Historical Association will hold its fourth annual apple pie contest in connection with a tag sale and bake sale event at the Thomas Smith House, 251 N. West St., Feeding Hills, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 12.

There is no cost to enter the pie contest, but pre-registration is necessary by calling Marilyn at 413-786-1452 or emailing AgawamHistoricalAssoc@gmail.com. Pie contest rules are available at thethomassmithhouse.com.

Library art show entry forms now available

The Friends of the Agawam Public Library will hold its seventh Open Juried Art Show Nov. 2-27. Best in show, first, second and third prizes in each category; 10 honorable mentions; and an artists' choice award will be given, with prizes totaling \$1,250.

The art show is to benefit the Agawam Public Library and to help recognize and encourage artists. In last year's Open Juried Art Show, there were 90 works accepted from 103 entries. This regional show included 84 artists from 36 towns and cities in Massachusetts and Connecticut.

Multiple entries per category of original art are allowed. The fee is \$25 per entry for early-bird registration by Saturday, Oct. 17. The fee becomes \$30 per entry after Oct. 17.

A two-week period for dropping off artwork at the library will begin Saturday, Oct. 17, during library hours,

which are Thursday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and ends Saturday, Oct. 31, the last day to enter, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Judging begins Oct. 17 at 2 p.m. and is closed to the public. An artist reception and awards ceremony is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 13, from 7 to 9 p.m., with music and light refreshments. It is free and open to the public.

The selection and awards jurors are Lisa B. Regopoulos and Mickey Boisvert.

The five categories are acrylics, oils, watercolors, pastels and other media (pencil drawing, charcoals, pen and inks, block prints, collage, encaustics).

The prospectus-entry form and a type-on entry form are at www.agawamlibrary.org/about/friends, as are

examples of winning artwork from previous shows. The artwork juried into the show will be on display in the gallery area of the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., Nov. 2-27.

For more information, email Bob Kadis at r.kadis@comcast.net. To request a prospectus-entry form in the mail, call him at 413-789-4814.

The Friends of the Agawam Public Library is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to support the town library by providing fundraisers, workshops and educational activities, and volunteer services. For more information, write to Friends of the Agawam Public Library, care of Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., Agawam, MA 01001. The Friends group is not connected to any local, state or federal government agency.

Cooper's 'Reveal' to benefit Parish Cupboard

Cooper's Gifts, Apparel, Home will host a "Big Reveal" open house this weekend to spotlight its recent makeover. Customers are invited to bring non-perishable food items for donation to the Parish Cupboard Emergency Food Program. In exchange, Cooper's will give raffle entry tickets for each item donated. Raffle prizes will include items from vendors such as Vera Bradley, Brighton, Stonewall Kitchen, Yankee Candle and many

more, including Cooper's gift cards.

The store has been closed for renovations Sept. 7-10. This closing allowed for floors to be refinished, store layout transformed and new product to be showcased. Doors will reopen at 10 a.m. Friday, Sept. 11, for a three-day fall open house. New branding will launch the same day.

Cooper's was founded by Kate Gourde's parents, Art and Joan Leary, in 1973. Gourde joined the family

business full-time in 1988.

Cooper's offers charities a way to raise funds through an initiative that they call "Round Up." The Parish Cupboard is the charity for September, Rays of Hope for October. For more information on how to nominate a charity, visit www.coopersgifts.com/roundup.

For more information about Cooper's, call 413-786-7760 or visit www.coopersgifts.com.

New members welcome to join women's club

The GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club will hold its first meeting of the 2015-16 season Tuesday, Sept. 15, at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. Social hour begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 7 p.m.

The AJWC is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, Ju-

nior Membership of Massachusetts, and is entering its 59th year of service to the community. The club's activities revolve around volunteer work and ongoing community service projects, including many programs and scholarships for Agawam's younger population.

The AJWC is looking for new mem-

bers of all ages to assist with these programs and projects. Guests and potential new members are welcome at all meetings.

For more information about how to become a member, contact Christina Beauchemin, membership chairman, at 413-427-8784.

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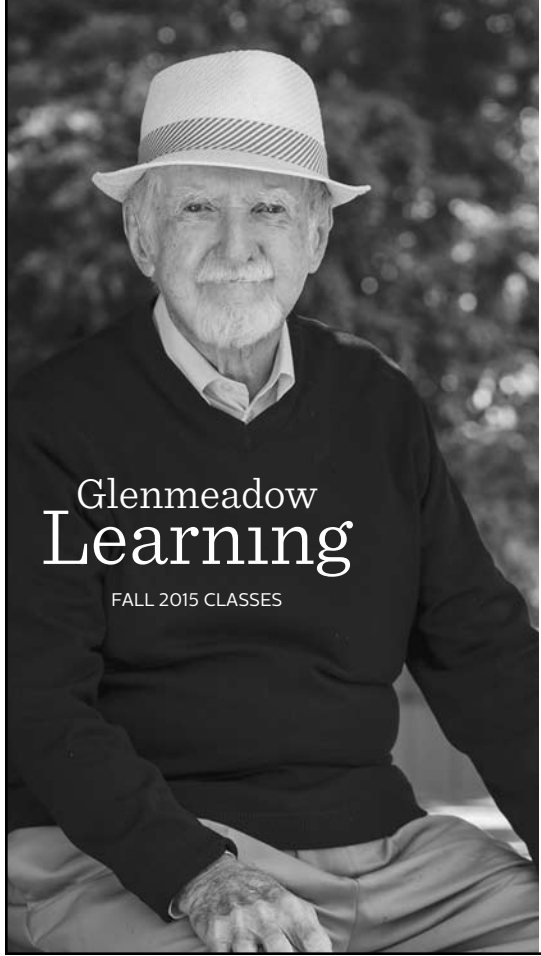
Aging with Vitality: Raising Healthy Parents, Living in Community OCT. 13, 7–8:30 PM

Orphan #8: An Author and Her Historical Fiction OCT. 27, 1–2:30 PM

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Programs are free and open to the public, but reservations are required. For locations or to enroll, call 413.567.7800 or e-mail learning@glenmeadow.org. Visit glenmeadow.org/learning.



Glenmeadow Learning
FALL 2015 CLASSES

Opinion

OUR VIEW

Hearts and darts

HEARTS to Agawam resident Chad Roderick, who flies out to California to fight wildfires every year — bravely putting his life on the line for people and communities who aren't even his neighbors — and to his family, who show their own sort of bravery in supporting him when they know that for a month at a time, he's not only in harm's way, but he's thousands of miles away from his loved ones. The annual wildfires of the West can seem like a remote tragedy, like an earthquake in Asia. But just as New England depends on help from outside the region to patch us up and dig us out from hurricanes and blizzards, people like Chad Roderick do our region, our state and our town proudly in the aid they give our national neighbors in their time of need.

DART to the state Department of Transportation, which couldn't find a way to complete the Memorial Avenue rotary before next week's start of the Big E, potentially shifting more of the fair's traffic impact onto local roads in Agawam. The reconstruction project began in May and saw the rotary closed to all traffic during some weekends in June; according to published reports from last December, it was intended to be finished in time for the Big E. Though maybe they should only get half a dart; after all, they made the right decision this week to suspend work on the rotary and Route 5, to ensure that traffic will have two lanes in all directions connecting the Big E with Interstate 91. Still, it's not as though opening day at New England's largest agricultural fair is some sort of surprise — the Big E even keeps a countdown clock on its own website. As the main access road for a once-a-year fair that dwarfs all other events in the Pioneer Valley, the rotary project should have been fast-tracked to stay on schedule.

HEARTS to Lighthouse Christian Church and St. David's Episcopal Church, and not just because they put on a family fun fair last month and distributed school supplies to children whose families might not otherwise have been able to afford a new backpack. These two churches deserve an extra "heart" for working together — after holding similar events separately last year, the two Springfield Street congregations got together this year to hold one, larger, better event. Perhaps they wouldn't agree on every little thing that's said in each respective pulpit on Sundays. But on a Saturday in mid-August, they showed that service is one thing on which they can agree. And no matter where the rest of us go on Sundays, we can agree on that, too.

What do you think? Send your letter to the editor to aan@turley.com.

GUEST COMMENTARY

September 11, 2015

By Bernadette Gentry

Although some memories fade with time, the sights we saw, the sounds we heard, and the thoughts and feelings we had that horrific day, September 11, 2001, will live and remain with us forever.

It was a beautiful Tuesday morning with marigolds and other summer flowers still blooming — an ordinary day at its beginning, yet, it became one of the most tragic days in our country's history. Terrorists had attacked us on our native soil.

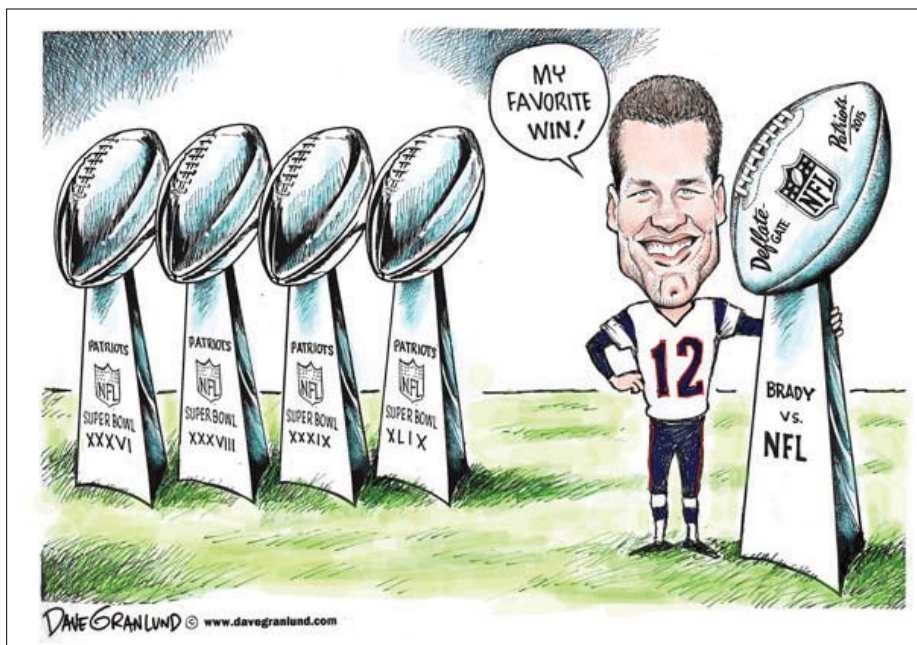
We heard news reports of two planes crashing into the Twin Towers. We see again the dark black billows of voluminous smoke, the courageous first responders entering the burning buildings, the Twin Towers falling before our eyes. We see the faces of those searching for loved ones, and hear their pleas on television. We remember all who lost their lives at the Pentagon, and in the plane crash in the field in Pennsylvania — heroes all.

We were united by our prayers and in our desire to help. Many gave blood, and others came to aid in whatever ways they could. I even remember the dogs who searched, and offered comfort.

Today, new buildings have been built, and memorials set up. Around the reflecting pools, names of those lost are engraved. Today, names of those who died will be read by their loved ones — survivors of great strength.

Life has gone on, yes, but memories of those loved ones gone will never leave us. We will love and miss them until we join them in eternity. May God bless our country, and may Peace return to the world.

Bernadette Gentry is a resident of Granby, Conn.



Letters to the Editor

Mayor's office could use a woman's point of view

I must admit that I was deeply saddened when I read the last issue front page (Agawam Advertiser News, Aug. 27), and saw that Mayor Cohen's only opponent will be Mr. Clark of Second Wind Yoga. Although I only know Mr. Clark from his stopping in my office a couple of times to discuss marketing, I feel in my opinion that he is not the best opponent to take on our current mayor.

This city has some of the most creative, innovative, intelligent women of any region in Western Mass. that I know, many women who have incredible leadership skills. I was hoping to see at least one on the ballot this year.

I grew up in the town, went to school here, moved away for 10 years in my late 20s and could not wait to get back here, raise my family and settle down here. As a business owner, I take great pride in my city and in our government.

I have known Mayor Cohen for many years, and have found him to be a great mayor with good ideas. However, I do believe in growth and change and feel that this city really needs a woman's point of view

Dee L. Emery-Ferrero
Agawam

and creative talents to grow and thrive and to attract new families and new business. I would love the opportunity to do that, but due to health issues I am dealing with, I cannot. However, I know several women that have and are serving on the city council that I would love to see step up to the plate and stretch their talents. They are smart, idea-based women who can make incredible changes to this city without raising taxes and destroying budgets.

Women obviously think different than men, and we seem to do more with the details that make that difference. I am hoping that because we have had one bad experience with a female politician, that it does not deter our residents from considering another woman as mayor. The possibilities in this town to grow, attract new business and families is endless, and I sincerely hope that a businesswoman who has a passion for this city and all it can be steps forward and runs as an independent. That is what this city needs.

Voices need to be heard on school's location

Supporting Catholic Secondary Education was formed following Bishop Rozanski's disappointing decision to build the new Pope Francis High School, our diocesan regional high school, on Surrey Road in Springfield. We believe this location will prevent many students from having the opportunity of a Catholic secondary education, and it will be an increased hardship/cost for those who decide to attend this location. We sincerely believe, and are advocating for, a more accessible location, which provides for all of our surrounding towns and not just in the vicinity of East Forest Park/Springfield.

We can make an impact by responding strongly to the diocese that this is not in the best interest of our community, nor for the growth of Pope Francis High School. It is important to provide more sensible and viable options, which express your belief in the value and preservation of Catholic sec-

ondary education, and your respect for the diocese's financial limitations.

The decision to build a school that is inaccessible to a community that is committed to Catholic secondary education is a decision that is worth reconsideration. Bishop Rozanski and the Diocesan Board of Education need to hear from you, and how this decision will impact your community and the education of your children. Our voices and opinions matter only if they are made known. Please take the time to make a difference.

Please find us on Facebook under Supporting Catholic Secondary Education (SCSED) ... password PopeFrancis15. Click onto the name Cath, or you can send us an email with your questions or comments to SCSED2015@gmail. We welcome your questions and suggestions.

Cynthia Montano
West Springfield

If intersection is unsafe, ZBA just made it worse

Let me apologize if I missed it somewhere, but it seems the Agawam Advertiser News, according to the opinion piece "State Made Right Call on Roadwork" of the Sept. 3 edition, agrees that the traffic situation at the intersection of Southwick, North Westfield, Springfield and South Westfield streets in Feeding Hills Center is already a dangerous and congested engineering disaster.

Where, then, was the critical opinion piece about the Zoning Board of Appeals' decision to allow two more drive-through businesses to be constructed, along with a medical facility just a few yards down from this intersection that, as you stated in the piece, "... will only make the problem

worse"? Where is the accountability for what sometimes can only be described as the capricious and irresponsible decisions they make? Are they working in the best interest of all the people of Agawam or just a select few? Are they really investigating and asking the right questions or just rubber-stamping?

Perhaps something to think about this election cycle when voting for the people who appoint the members of boards such as the ZBA.

Matt Reardon
Feeding Hills

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\$35 per year pre-paid (\$40 out of state)
Newsstand \$1.00

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

must include a name, address, and daytime telephone number for author verification purposes. We do not publish anonymous letters. All letters are subject to editing for content and space. The deadline is Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. Please send letters to Agawam Advertiser News, Letters to the Editor, Attn: Teri Machia, 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030 or e-mail aan@turley.com.

AGAWAM

The Agawam Advertiser News (USPS 001-170) is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069.

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Letters to the Editor



The Safety Bug helps first-time rider Caiden Walker off the bus at a program held Aug. 27. SUBMITTED PHOTO

First-time bus riders learned about safety

The GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club recently held its 42nd First Time Bus Riders Program featuring the Safety Bug. Incoming kindergarten students were shown proper and safe bus-riding techniques and parents were given helpful tips about the first days of school.

The event was held at the Agawam Public Library on Aug. 27 with over 95 children and their caregivers in attendance. There have been countless children over the years who have been able to attend this wonderful, informative program presented by the AJWC.

The Agawam Juniors wish to thank the Agawam Public Library for their continued support, Pioneer Valley AAA who assisted with handouts for parents, and Sergeant Donald Gallerani of the Agawam Police Department, who spoke to the children about safety on the bus.

We also appreciate the assistance from Michelle Connery, outreach coordinator from the Agawam Family & Community Program, who gave information to parents and passed out free children's books to all in attendance.

A huge thank you to the bus company, Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative, who graciously donated their bus, and Jimmy, the driver, to make this first-time bus ride a comfortable, less threatening one for our school children.

Good luck to all incoming Agawam/Feeding Hills school children. Have a great school year.

The Agawam Juniors are always looking for new members. Please contact Christina Beauchemin at 413-427-8784 for more information.

The AJWC is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts, Junior Membership.

Agawam Junior Women's Club

YESTERDAY'S HOMETOWN NEWS

A 1981 Agawam Advertiser News

At a tag sale this past weekend, a box of old newspapers and magazines for a dollar produced three copies of the May 14, 1981, Agawam Advertiser News. It generated at least \$10 worth of memories. I brought a copy to the library this week. It's at the reference desk. Plan on a half-hour of enjoyment. The front page had a picture of some trees off of River Road that were wrapped with foil to combat gypsy moths. Of course, the picture was taken by Jack Devine.



Walt Willard

Steve Gazillo, one of the Advertiser News' staff writers, had a front-page story about the Town Council. The council president was Paul Fieldstad and the town manager was Richard Bowen. Staff writer Joanne Brown was busy with at least four stories. Her science fair article mentioned Middle School students John Bara, Tim Sheehan, Kim Saunders, Lisa Ziegert and Elizabeth Beaulieu. They were under the supervision of science teacher Mark Costanzi. Joanne also wrote about our "As Schools Match Wits" team of Bob Lancour, Tim Ryan, Todd Rovelli, Mark Morrison and Roger Olewinski. They were coached by high school English teacher Larry O'Brien, who was readying them for their upcoming quarterfinal match on Channel 22. Do you remember Phil Shepardson, the host of the show?

Model Congress was another Joanne Brown story. Jack Devine's picture showed adviser John Ferranti and a student, Tom Doucette, showing their toxic waste control bill to state Rep. William Nagle Jr. Joanne's second-page story was about the Town Council. School Committee chairman Walter Balboni had criticized Town Council President Paul Fieldstad "... for not carrying through on his commitment to us." Councilors voting that night were

Cincotta, Colli, DeForge, Gallano. Paleologopoulos, Rheault, Theroux, Bartnik, Bonavita, Herd, Serra and Trehey.

The Food Mart ad offered six large navel oranges for a dollar. You could get them here in town or at their store on East Main Street in Westfield. Never knew the Cataldos had two stores. Seems like only one large navel orange is a dollar now.

In her column, "For Senior Citizens," Rita White wrote about Annie Rachek and Edith Gates attending the Mother's Day celebration at the Senior Center. Alice Squazza won the alley-cat contest. Recent brides pictured were Cynthia Ayre, who married James Krolicki, and Lisa Losito, who married Scott Rhodes.

Penny Stone's column, "On the Clothesline," featured Sharon Stefanik, who had just won the Good Citizenship award at AHS. Sharon was a member of the National Honor Society, captain of the color guard, assistant editor of the yearbook and a flutist in the school band. She was planning to attend North Adams State College. Sharon can now be seen on television as host of "Real to Reel." Penny also featured Doug Borgatti, who was about to get his Ph.D. from Notre Dame. Doug recently retired from the wastewater treatment plant at Bondi's Island. I went to his retirement party at the Fish and Game Club. Craig Dore came over to shake my hand and say, "Hello, Mr. Willard." A week later, I was saying hello Mr. Dore when he made the front page of the paper. That must have been a lucky handshake.

My favorite Jack Devine picture is shown here. The boys were in fourth grade at Peirce School. Their teacher, Mrs. Josephine Whitehead, had her students read a book and then make a hand puppet of one



Michael Passerini, left, and Walter Komorowski, display a couple of the popular fictional characters made into puppets for original book reports by fourth-graders at Peirce School. Some popular characters represented were MishMash, Rupert, Miss Pickerell, and Encyclopedia Brown. FILE PHOTO BY JACK DEVINE

of the characters in the story. Her students had to tell the story to the class from the point of view of the puppet.

Mike Passerini is married to the former Deborah Cataldo. They have three children, Jenna, a sophomore at Westfield State College; John, a senior at AHS; and Mario, a freshman at AHS.

Walt Willard went to AHS and taught math there for 16 years. He can be reached at 413-786-7924. Call him. Walt loves your feedback and any and all information or tidbits you can offer.

Girl Scout information session to be held Sept. 21

Parents and guardians of girls entering kindergarten through grade 12 are invited to a Girl Scout information and registration session on Monday, Sept. 21, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St.

Girl Scout representatives will share

the benefits of Girl Scouting and make registration available for parents and guardians. The registration fee is \$25 for the membership year. Girl Scouting is the ultimate leadership experience available to all girls ages 5 to 17.

The event is free. Girls must be accom-

panied by a parent or guardian to attend. For more information about the event, call Katie Chappell at 508-749-3604 or email kchappell@gscwm.org.

For more information on Girl Scouts or to join online, visit www.girlscouts.org/join.

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A FREE GIFT JUST FOR STOPPING IN WITH THIS AD

Blended, layered, carved paintings on display at library throughout Sept.

The Agawam Public Library is exhibiting the work of Steven Kennedy for the month of September.

Despite living with the limitations of cerebral palsy, Kennedy, 45, has found success with art. He has been a participant with Riverside Arts since 2006 and has mastered his creative style in those years. His art is influenced by his hopes, dreams and memories, and has become a powerful tool for expression. According to Kennedy, he gets energized by listening to his favorite rock music while creating art.

"I dream about my art. Sometimes I dream when I'm asleep and sometimes I daydream about my art," he said. "Art makes me feel good. It is fun and exciting. It is my passion in life and helps me express my feelings. There is no judgment in art and I can be myself. I enjoy collaborating with other artists so that I can learn new techniques from them and they can learn from me. My dream as an artist is to

have my own studio in Easthampton where I can do art all day. I would like to teach friends how to do art. I also want to talk and share ideas with friends and fellow artists."

Using Sennelier oil sticks, Kennedy creates art through color blending, layering and carving. He enjoys working on a variety of themes, including experiments in color mixing, self-portraiture, landscapes, and self-expressive abstracts. He prefers to work on a larger scale but also creates smaller works.

Kennedy's work will be on display on the gallery walls, the lower level walls and the lower level glass case at the library at 750 Cooper St. during regular hours. Beginning Sept. 12, the library will be open Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information on displaying artwork at the library, contact Cher Collins, adult services librarian, at 413-789-1550, ext. 8851, or ccollins@agawamlibrary.org.

TRAFFIC ■ from page 1

how far back the traffic goes."

Gillis and Mayor Richard Cohen always advise residents to find alternate routes during the Big E and avoid the traffic-filled area. Gillis said the weekends are especially busy; sometimes, so is late in the day on weekdays.

The Big E begins Friday, Sept. 18, at the Eastern States Exposition grounds on Memorial Avenue in West Springfield. The fair — the largest of its kind in New England, and fifth-largest in North America — is open 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily through Sunday, Oct. 4. The fair includes big-name music concerts at 7:30 p.m. on most Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights.

Last year, the Big E had its highest attendance yet, 1,498,605. Attendance on individual days ranged from 34,863 on the second Tuesday of the fair to 170,612 on the second Saturday, the highest single-day attendance in the history of the fair.

Residents can trust in the officers that are directing traffic during the Big E days.

"We have a lot of veteran officers that work the Big E," said Kiernan. "In West Springfield, Agawam, and the State Police ... these folks have worked here before. They all work together and they do a great job."

Cohen and Gillis said the behind-schedule rotary project had them concerned about extra traffic coming through Agawam, but news of the rotary and Route 5 work being placed on hold is welcoming.



Diane D'Amour hugs the fair's mascot, Biggie E, during "Salute to Agawam Day" in 2013. This year's Agawam Day is Wednesday, Sept. 30. FILE PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

Kiernan also said out-of-town visitors to the Big E will have the help of the State Police and MassDOT during this year's fair.

"MassDOT has signs and will be using their electronic boards on Route 91 and the Mass. Pike in order to give traffic advisories," said Kiernan. "The state police will be staffing the South End Bridge area at times, and the West Springfield police will staff the Memorial Bridge rotary as needed."

The best part for taxpayers is that there is no cost to them for the additional police presence. Gillis said any traffic details required on Agawam's side of the border are billed to and paid for by the Big E.



Doug White, right, Roger Kupec's deputy director and appointed successor, congratulates him after presenting him with a gift. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK

KUPEC ■ from page 1

and originally the town's first high school — failed during a torrential rain and ice storm.

"The school's entire top floor was flooded. The crew worked many long hours to repair all the damage so the school would be ready for the resumption of classes. Although it was a great challenge, it was also the most rewarding because it illustrated what the dedicated staff of the Building Maintenance Department was capable of doing."

Kupec said it is that type of challenge that he will miss the most — along with all the "fantastic" people he's worked with as the department's director.

"It's been a blessing to have been able to work with such a great professional staff throughout my many years," he said. "I've also enjoyed the support of the mayor and the superintendent of schools."

Mayor, superintendent praise

Both Mayor Richard Cohen and Superintendent of Schools William Sapelli said Kupec has been a dedicated director and town employee who will be missed.

"Roger has been an outstanding director and has been a long-serving employee dedicated to our town," said Cohen.

The mayor added that Kupec's knowledge, dedication, and work ethic will be missed by all: "We wish him well in his retirement and hope he will remember us, as

we will always positively remember him." Sapelli said Kupec understood the importance of keeping the town's schools well-maintained.

"Not only is this a contributing factor to the safety of staff and students, but visitors to our schools often comment on how clean and well-maintained our buildings are," he said. "These compliments are the direct result of Roger's leadership and professionalism."

Kupec's deputy director, Doug White, has been appointed as Kupec's successor. White has worked with Kupec in the department for more than 20 years.

"Roger is the rock of the department," said White during an informal retirement party for Kupec organized by the building maintenance department staff just two days before his official retirement.

'Big shoes' to fill

White said he knows that succeeding Kupec means White has some "big shoes" to fill: "Roger's been the foundation for the department — and his retirement is like losing the pillar of that foundation."

For Kupec, retirement means that instead of dealing with the "ever-changing regulations imposed by the state that take up so much time and resources," he can concentrate on one of his favorite pastimes.

"Now I can dedicate my time to attempting to improve my golf game," he said.

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Dr. Joseph Walz



Dr. Andrea Fallon



Dr. Julia Landry

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PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

As a free service for our readers, we will print all births, weddings, engagements, milestone anniversaries, major birthdays, military achievements, honors and awards. We have a "people news" form available for you to submit these listings. This material is provided to us by our readers and local institutions and we do not charge to print this content.

For more information, or to submit people or milestone news for Agawam Advertiser News, please email mballway@turley.com.

Public Safety

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 328 calls for service from Sept. 1 to Sept. 7. The department made three arrests. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Tuesday, Sept. 1

Thomas J. Carabine, 47, of 5 Captaumet Lane, West Springfield, was arrested on charges of disorderly conduct, and town ordinance violation — open container prohibited.

FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 75 EMS calls from Sept. 1 to Sept. 7, and the following emergency response calls.

On Sept. 1 at 9:23 a.m., the department responded to Castle Hills Road for smoke detector activation due to malfunction.

On Sept. 1 at 9:27 a.m., the department responded to Highland Street for service call, other.

On Sept. 2 at 8:49 a.m., the department responded to Mansion Woods Drive for CO detector activation due to malfunction.

On Sept. 5 at 7:06 a.m., the department responded to Walnut Street for high-angle rescue.

On Sept. 5 at 8:34 a.m., the department responded to Twin Oaks Road for outside rubbish fire, other.

On Sept. 5 at 9:05 a.m., the department responded to Main Street for smoke scare, odor of smoke.

On Sept. 5 at 6:42 p.m., the department responded

Thursday, Sept. 3

Kourosh Cyrus Bahrehmand, 32, of 99 Mill St. Agawam, was arrested on charges on defrauding a restaurant, assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, and disorderly conduct.

Monday, Sept. 7

Justin Dunkavich, 26, was arrested on charges of disorderly conduct, a default warrant for license suspended, two default warrants for failure to appear, six counts of forgery of a document, receiving a lost credit card, and four counts of uttering false document.

to Forest Ridge Lane for natural vegetation fire, other.

On Sept. 5 at 6:46 p.m., the department responded to Twin Oaks Road for outside rubbish fire, other.

On Sept. 6 at 4:02 p.m., the department responded to Forest Ridge Lane for forest, woods or wildland fire.

On Sept. 6 at 4:28 p.m., the department responded to Roberta Circle for carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO.

On Sept. 6 at 6:26 p.m., the department responded to Shoemaker Lane for brush or brush and grass mixture fire.

On Sept. 7 at 2 a.m., the department responded Colmore Street, was dispatched and canceled en route.

On Sept. 7 at 7:04 p.m., the department responded to Clover Hill Drive for smoke scare, odor of smoke.

On Sept. 7 at 10:45 p.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for alarm system sounded due to malfunction.

Register for Sept. 12 hazardous waste collection

The Agawam Department of Public Works will hold its annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 12, at the DPW Annex, 1000 Suffield St.

This program offers residents a safe, economical way to dispose of household items that are flammable, reactive, corrosive or toxic. Solvents, pesticides, caustic

cleaners and oil-based paints are some examples of the different types of items that will be accepted.

For a complete list of acceptable materials, visit www.agawam.ma.us. This event is free to Agawam residents, but registration in advance is required. Appointments may be scheduled by calling the DPW at 413-821-0600, ext. 0, or 413-821-0624.

FAITH MATTERS

Back to school at church

By Rob Donaldson

Sunday School is back in session at Feeding Hills Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, beginning with a special breakfast at church at 9 a.m. We offer a small and comfy program for grades kindergarten through 6 under the direction of Amanda Rogers. The kids will be learning about Noah's Ark for the first part of the year, but first is breakfast. Come and join us.

Feeding Hills Congregational Church is an open and affirming congregation, which is United Church of Christ jargon meaning that the LGBT community is as welcome as the straight community, just as they are.

Sue Boisvert is scheduled to serve as lector, the person who reads scripture, and Matt Granger and Evelyn Nodland will welcome you to worship and answer any questions you may have as a visitor. The Sunday School will host refreshment hour immediately following worship.

I will be speaking on passages from the eighth chapter of the Gospel according to Mark. The sermon is titled, "Where Justice Rules, Where Love Shapes Everything." Jesus had followers, who came to watch for miracles but went away when someone else could tell them what they wanted to hear or could show them a better time. Disciple-

ship meant something different and deeper for those who were serious about calling themselves followers of Jesus. For one thing, it's something that can change and deepen over time. Like love. For another, it does tend to set you apart from those who do not follow Jesus. What could it mean to follow Jesus in our time and place? Come to worship this Sunday and find out. We'll make you feel more than welcomed.

On the second Sunday of each month, our church has an offering of groceries and cash to help Parish Cupboard in its front-line ministry to the neediest in our area. And on the third Sunday, I and other church members bring lunch and a brief worship service to Parish Cupboard after our own worship is done for the morning. We will begin taking part in the Crossroads/New Beginnings program in October. There's always something going on at Feeding Hills Congregational Church, United Church of Christ.

The church office phone is 413-786-5061. We're also on Facebook and at www.fhccucc.org on the web. Feel free to contact us with any questions. See you in church?

The Rev. Rob Donaldson is pastor at Feeding Hills Congregational Church on North Westfield Street.

Residents among Mattoon St. Arts exhibitors

SPRINGFIELD — Agawam designer Sarah Platanitis, gourd artist Cecil Rossi, Kimmy Koi Art and Anne Marie Guiel will be among the more than 100 artists and crafters exhibiting at the 43rd annual Mattoon Street Arts Festival, to take place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 12 and 13 in downtown Springfield.

This free arts and crafts show is held on a street lined with restored brick Victorian row houses in the city's first historical dis-

trict. It is the oldest arts and crafts show in Western Massachusetts. Mattoon Street is off Chestnut Street, just four blocks east of exit 7 from Interstate 91. Free festival parking is in the TD Bank lot on Dwight Street and Harrison Avenue. On-street spaces are free on weekends.

For information, call Bob McCarroll at 413-736-0629 or visit www.mattoonfestival.org.



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Kozloski awarded for CPA work

Henry Kozloski, of Agawam, will receive one of this year's Kuehn Community Preservation Awards.

The Kuehn Community Preservation Awards will honor 10 "Community Preservation Heroes," individuals who have been significant contributors to the success of CPA, and whose work best exemplifies the spirit of Robert H. Kuehn Jr., who helped draft and pass the state's Community Preservation Act in 2000.

Kuehn was also one of the founders and main supporters of the Community Preservation Coalition, and served as vice chairman of its Steering Committee until his death in June 2006. This award recognizes Kuehn's contribution to the success of the CPA, a local-option program in which towns can fund historical, open space and housing projects from a local fund supported by a small percentage of local property tax revenues, and grants from the state.

Kozloski was recognized for dedication, enthusiasm, leadership and tireless commitment to community preservation in Agawam. In their nomination letter, the Agawam CPA Committee cited Kozloski as a longtime Agawam resident who has served on the committee since its adoption in 2002. Kozloski has also served as the chairman of the Agawam Conservation Commission for over 40 years.

The nomination called Kozloski a driving force in the adoption of CPA in Agawam, one of the first communities to adopt CPA. He was instrumental in many of the projects completed with CPA funding, serving on the Agawam Barn Advisory Committee, whose efforts have resulted in over \$500,000 in CPA funds to restore a barn on the National Register of Historic Places.

The award will be presented at a ceremony at the State House on Oct. 6 at 10:30 a.m. The event will be an opportunity to celebrate the work of CPA heroes and demonstrate to state legislators the impact CPA has had across the state. The 15th anniversary of the Community Preservation Act will also be celebrated.

HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the *Agawam Advertiser News* should be sent directly to klanier@turley.com. Karen Lanier processes all legal notices for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x271.

Turley Publications, Inc. publishes 15 weekly newspapers throughout Western Massachusetts. Visit www.turley.com for more information.

Legals

AGAWAM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT August 12, 2015

Notice is hereby given that the Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at the Agawam Public Library, Community Room, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA on **Monday, September 28, 2015 at 6:30 PM** for all parties interested in the appeal of Aleksandr Dadayev, who is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 180-7 to allow for the construction of an addition to a residential structure with less than the required front setback and frontage at the premises identified as 779 Main Street.

Doreen Prouty Chairperson
Agawam Board of Appeals
9/10,9/17/15

AGAWAM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT August 17, 2015

Notice is hereby given that the Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at the Agawam Public Library, Community Room, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA on **Monday, September 28, 2015 at 7:00 PM** for all parties interested in the appeal of Peter Kaptyug, who is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 180-7 to allow for the construction of an addition to a residential structure with less than the required frontage at the premises identified as 629 Suffield Street.

Doreen Prouty Chairperson
Agawam Board of Appeals
9/10,9/17/15

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD15P1425EA Estate of: Jeannette A Dore Date of Death: 07/17/2015 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons: A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Charles L Dore** of Bonita Springs FL requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Charles L Dore** of Bonita Springs FL be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/23/2015. This is NOT a hear-

ing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: September 02, 2015
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
9/10/15

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD15C0146CA In the matter of: Caleb Abner Kyrilovich Of: Feeding Hills, MA

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

To all persons interested in petition described:

A petition has been presented by **Tatyana Kirilovich Kyrilovich** requesting that: **Caleb Abner Kyrilovich** be allowed to change his/her/their name as follows:

Caleb Abner Kirilovich

If you desire to object thereto, you or your attorney must file a written appearance in said Court at: Springfield on or before ten o'clock in the morning (10:00 a.m.) on: 09/28/2015

WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: August 31, 2015
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
9/10/15

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

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CLUES ACROSS
1. Recesses
6. Slanderous defamation
12. Fruit phrase: Life is just
16. Undergraduate degree
17. A way of damaging
18. Indicates position
19. Equally
20. Manuscript (abbr.)
21. ___ Lanka
22. Thus
23. 4th tone of scale
24. Town or commune in France
26. Sharp inclination
28. Watering holes
30. 1st state (abbr.)
31. Cattle genus
32. Type of American Indian
34. Before
35. Hairless
37. Hosts film festival
39. African tribe
40. Loud crowd noise

CLUES DOWN
1. Lowered in prestige
2. Turin river
3. Moves through water
4. Disappearing shade trees
5. Standard operating procedure
6. A shrill cry
7. Japanese apricot
8. Emergency Response Notification System (abbr.)
9. Sparta's ancient rival city
10. The Ocean State
11. Jack-tar
12. Sleeveless Arab garments
13. Abstains from food
14. Waxed finish
15. Conditions of balance
25. Cloud of interstellar dust
26. Turf
27. Political action committee

CLUES ACROSS
41. Quarter
43. Swiss capital
44. Sandhurst (abbr.)
45. Golfer Snead
47. Bachelor's of Applied Science
48. A radio band
50. Assist in some wrongdoing
52. SW German state
___: Württemberg
54. Rosary component
56. Expresses surprise
57. Hot Springs state (abbr.)
59. Soak flax
60. Atomic #73
61. Exist
62. Megabyte
63. Energy in the form of waves or particles
66. Farm state (abbr.)
67. WWII flyer's phrase: On
70. Store fodder for preservation
71. Lubed

CLUES DOWN
29. Repentant act
31. B.B. King sang them
33. Salesman's items
36. Every
38. Neither
39. African nation
41. Hindu's creator god
42. The bill in a restaurant
43. Edict
46. Maritime
47. Small bright tropical fish
49. Cockered
51. Mountain lakes
53. No longer alive
54. Unoriginal
55. Costly
58. Finger millet
60. Aaron Spelling's child
64. Dekaliter
65. Initial public offering
68. Not out
69. Thou

Answers on page 19



BEAR ■ from page 1

cycling bin. They can be scared by loud noises — a stern voice or banging pots and pans, for example. Strong said when the local police are called out to remove a bear from the road, they often scare it away with their sirens.

“I tell people who live in these high-traffic bear areas to have air horns,” said Strong. “Scare that bear away. Clap your hand. Yell at the bear. The more we keep them afraid of people, the more they’re going to stay in the woods.”

She advises joggers in the Robinson State Park area to put bells on their sneakers so they don’t startle bears. A black bear hearing the bells will generally stay out of the jogger’s way.

If the bear is successfully scared into the woods, it’s not necessary to call the animal control officer, town police or state Environmental Police. Residents should notify the authorities if the bear appears to be acting unusually, or injured.

That hasn’t been the case with the most commonly seen bear this year in Feeding Hills, a young bear with a red tag from the state of Connecticut in each ear. He was first seen in town in the spring. Strong learned from Connecticut fish and game authorities that the bear had been found wandering deep into residential areas, and had been relocated to the reservoir property in Barkhamsted. He does not have a history of violence toward people — just a sweet tooth for our food and a level of comfort with humans that most bears don’t have.

“I was probably 20-25 feet away from him and he was completely relaxed,” Strong said. “That kind of behavior is concerning. He really should want to run away from us. You should see nervous-type behavior, a lot of pacing, [or] they may run into a tree.”

She said she hopes the changing seasons will prompt a change in his lifestyle.

“He’s young, he’s just figuring life out,” said Strong. “As fall approaches, he’s going to be looking for a mate. We hope he’ll find his way into the woods.”

For homeowners, the key to keeping bears away is not to leave food out — including bird-feeders. Trash and recycling should be placed on the curb on the morning of pick-up day, not the night before. Strong noted that food left out also attracts foxes, coyotes and bobcats.



A black bear with red tags was seen by an Agawam Advertiser News reader on Elizabeth Street in Feeding Hills last Friday, emptying the reader’s bird-feeder, a week after another reader saw him near South Westfield and Pine streets. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Symphony tickets on sale

SPRINGFIELD — Tickets are on sale for the Springfield Symphony Orchestra’s upcoming concert season, which begins Oct. 3.

Single tickets for all 11 concerts this season start at \$22. Tickets for kids ages 4 and up, and full-time college student with valid identification, are \$10 per concert. For assistance with seats and ordering, call the Springfield Symphony box office at 413-733-2291, visit www.tickets.SpringfieldSymphony.org or stop by Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 1350 Main St., Springfield (facing Court Square, next to Palazzo Café).

The Springfield Symphony also offers subscription packages: the Full Season (11 concerts), the Classical Series (seven concerts), Pops Series (four concerts), Choose Series (pick any six, five or four concerts). All tickets include free parking, as well as other members-only discounts and benefits.

Dazzling lineup

Maestro Kevin Rhodes and the Springfield Symphony Orchestra’s 72nd season of music will include some of the world’s best-loved favorites by Beethoven, Brahms, Grieg, Dvo ák, Mozart, Haydn, Gershwin, Saint-Saëns and Copland, incredible music by less frequently heard composers, and the world premiere of a new piano concerto.

In addition to the annual favorite “Home for the Follidays” holiday concert on Dec. 5 (featuring guest conductor Bruce Hangen, the Springfield Symphony Chorus, the Children’s Chorus of Springfield and other special guests), this year’s Pops series will also bring to life the sounds of Journey, the iconic rock band of the ’70s and ’80s, celebrate the music of “Ole Blue Eyes,” Frank Sinatra, and will feature an evening of blockbuster scores composed by the master of modern movie anthems, composer and conductor John Williams.

All concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. in Springfield Symphony Hall, 34 Court St. For more information about the Springfield Symphony Orchestra and the 2015-16 season, visit www.SpringfieldSymphony.org.

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ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS



Action from the Agawam Pee Wee game.



The Agawam Junior cheerleaders perform during the Juniors football game.

Back on the grid

TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Daniell Metras and Grace Metras, 4, enjoy the football game with Jared Scavotto, 13.



Will Kiddey, 6, shows off one of the many T-shirts for sale at every game.



Connie Houle shows her raffle tickets sold to her by Seniors coach Mike Berthiaume.



The Pee Wee Championship banner is presented by Agawam Youth Football president David Dematteo to last year's coach, Brett McLaughlin.



An Agawam Juniors player kicks the ball.



Doug Reed calls the game from the announcer's booth.



The Agawam Pee Wee team runs a play against Chicopee.



The Pee Wee cheerleaders perform during the opening game.

Youth

Class in the caf, gym indoors as schools start year with heat wave

By Michael J. Ballway
mballway@turley.com

School opened smoothly in Agawam last week and by the start of this week, everyone had warmed to the task.

Literally. Temperatures on the day after Labor Day soared above 100 for only the second time in 2015, prompting Agawam's schools — which largely lack air conditioning — to look for ways to beat the heat.

"We try to do activities that are low-impact," said School Superintendent William Sapelli. "For [physical education], for instance, and recess they stay in."

Other strategies included turning off lights and drawing shades; stopping frequently for water breaks; even moving classes from rooms on the sunlit side of the building to rooms on the other side, or the interior. Some classes on Tuesday were held in school cafeterias during non-lunch hours.

"That happens a lot if you're unfortunate enough at this time of year to get that room" facing the sunlight, Sapelli said on Tuesday. "In the winter, it's nice."

At the junior high school, the newest school building in Agawam, classrooms without exterior windows are served by an air-conditioning unit, and some classes were moved to those rooms on Tuesday. That building is the only one with permanently air-conditioned classrooms, though a limited number of classrooms each year are equipped with portable air conditioning units because of some students' special needs accommodation plans.

Sapelli said the individual school prin-

cipals monitor the temperatures in their buildings and decide how to respond. He said 90 degrees "is usually the magic number" to take special measures, though a lower temperature with abnormally high humidity could also prompt a response.

"Almost every room" at the elementary schools, and several rooms in the higher grades, have fans, Sapelli said, many of them purchased by the parent-teacher organizations.

He said the schools have to deal with extreme heat "five or 10 days, 10 max," each year. Sapelli said the schools don't have a rigid or written policy on what modifications to make, or what temperature triggers a change.

"Common sense dictates, as a rule," Sapelli said. "Fortunately, in this area, we don't normally get [high] temperatures. A heat wave is three days that are 90 degrees or above. We haven't had one all year."

According to data from the Weather Channel, the first day of school, Thursday, Sept. 3, was actually the third day of a heat wave in Agawam, but temperatures dropped to 83.5 degrees on Friday, so students and teachers did not have to endure several days of heat in school. Similarly, Tuesday, Sept. 8, was the third straight day of 90-plus degree temperatures, but school was not in session on Sunday or Monday. At no point in May or June did the daily high temperature stay above 90 degrees for three consecutive school days.

In Framingham and Lawrence, Mass., and several school districts in Connecticut, several schools canceled classes or dismissed after a half-day on Tuesday or Wednesday amid record-setting heat.

School Lunch

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

Agawam High School students will have the following entrée options.

Monday, Sept. 14: Buffalo chicken tender, cheese or pepperoni pizza, chicken Caesar salad, ham and cheese or chicken filet wrap.

Tuesday, Sept. 15: Grilled cheese on Texas toast, pasta bar, cheese or meat French bread pizza, Buffalo popcorn chicken salad, ham and cheese or turkey wrap.

Wednesday, Sept. 16: Children filet wrap, fresh assorted calzones, low-fat cottage cheese, ham and cheese or chicken filet wrap.

Thursday, Sept. 17: Chicken bowl, stuffed-crust pizza, popcorn chicken salad, ham and cheese or turkey wrap.

Friday, Sept. 18: Cheeseburger on a whole-wheat bun, meatball grinder, cheese or specialty pizza, ham and cheese or wrap of the day.

All entrees served with side.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL ROBERTA G. DOERING SCHOOL AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Monday, Sept. 14: Baked mozzarella sticks with marinara sauce, whipped potatoes, green beans, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, Sept. 15: Yogurt, whole-wheat grilled cheese, whole-grain goldfish crackers, steamed peas, fresh and chilled fruit.

Wednesday, Sept. 16: Hot dog on a whole-wheat roll with condiments, baked beans, onion rings, fresh and chilled fruit.

Thursday, Sept. 17: Chicken drumsticks with ranch dip, baked fries, seasoned vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.

Friday, Sept. 18: Ultra-grain stuffed pepperoni and cheese pizza, salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, baked cookie.



Abbie Malouin at a recent rehearsal for Holyoke Catholic's production of "Guys and Dolls." SUBMITTED PHOTO

Agawam resident to star in school musical

CHICOPEE — Agawam teen Abbie Malouin will star as Miss Adelaide in "Guys and Dolls," presented the next two weekends by the Holyoke Catholic High School Performing Arts Club.

The musical comedy about gamblers, gangsters and showgirls in 1940s New York will be performed at 7:30 p.m. Fri-

days and Saturday, Sept. 11-12 and 18-19, at Veritas Auditorium at Elms College, 291 Springfield St., Chicopee. Tickets are \$14 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors. Tickets are available in advance at 413-777-4701 or amanda.malouin@gmail.com. Tickets will be available at the door subject to availability.

Family playgroup set to begin Sept. 17

The Agawam Congregational Church Family Playgroup will begin Thursday, Sept. 17. The public is invited to attend for crafts, stories, songs, free play and more. Playgroup is open to children birth through age 5 with a parent or caregiver and takes

place at the church, 745 Main St. The program schedule follows the Agawam public school calendar.

For more information, email janet-brown@agawamcong.com or call the office at 413-786-7111.

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SPORTS

FOOTBALL

Brownies set to defend crown

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The regular season is just about set to begin as football returns to Western Massachusetts beginning tomorrow night.

This year, the Brownies, the two-time reigning and defending Suburban Conference champions will play on the road against Minnechaug, a former rival.

Agawam utilized the extra week of preseason to fit in some extra scrimmages. The Brownies faced East Longmeadow, took part in a multi-team event at Enrico Fermi High School on Aug. 29, and last Friday afternoon, had a final tune-up for their opener against Holyoke High School.

Agawam and Holyoke were previously league opponents, and played on the independent circuit each of the last two years. But the two teams declined to play each other this year in favor of different independent matchups.

Last Friday, coach John Benjamin got his final look at the Brownies before they play Minnechaug.

Benjamin was able to rotate several players in and out of the lineup at Holyoke, and was able to get snaps for starting quarterback Troy Gallerani, as well as backup Mike Basile.

As of now, Basile will be able to find playing time in other areas of the offense, including tight end. However, he's taking snaps in the event of an injury or if a change is needed. Gallerani went 6-2 during the regular season last year, his first leading the Brownies offense.



The Agawam football team faces Holyoke in preseason action last Friday afternoon. The Brownies open up the season on Friday night against Minnechaug. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

FOOTBALL | page 13

GIRLS SOCCER

Agawam looks to take step forward

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – It was not the season the Agawam girls soccer team was hoping for, but the Lady Brownies did enter the tournament and put up a good run in their only game.

This year, Agawam is returning a veteran goalie, and some veterans on offense and defense this year hoping to find more scoring to make a better tournament run this year.

Agawam plays in the Kurty-Fielding League, and went 2-2-4 against their league competition last year. That record, thanks to a couple of ties and a late season favor from Chicopee Comp, was good enough for a second place league finish.

With a 4-10-5 overall record, Agawam entered the tournament and faced Northampton. The Blue Devils already owned two victories over the Brownies, and jumped out to 3-0 lead.

Instead of laying down, however, the Brownies got back up, and scored three unanswered goals to tie the game before halftime. Despite the huge comeback, Agawam was unable to complete the feat, and was defeated by one goal in the second half, ending their season.

Agawam has had a good history of making the tournament, and this year hopes to be no different.

Returning to the goal for the Brownies will be Jenna Beach. Beach came on last year as a platoon keeper. She would emerge later as the starter and started and played the entire playoff game. She finished last season with 103 saves for the Brownies.

Among the returning defenders are Katie Martin and Katie Grasso. Both are coming off phenomenal spring seasons in lacrosse and softball, respectively. Martin senior and Grasso is a junior. Martin was a staple for the Agawam defense last season.

Midfielders Allie Wysocki, Julie Serra, and Sydney O'Keefe are also returning this season. On offense, Sarah Carron and Jill Scherpa are among the key returners.

Also back this season is Alyssa Montagna. Montagna was pulled up to the varsity mid-way through last season and

SOCCER | page 14

CROSS COUNTRY

Lady harriers look to experience for success Boys depending on top runners for leadership

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The story of last season for the Agawam girls cross country team was the success secured by Megan Dustin, who made it up to the state meet thanks to some tough running and battling through injuries.

Dustin was the top competitor and set records at Agawam's home course at Robinson State Park for a team that had a tough season, going 2-5.

But this year, the Brownies will be counting on a smaller roster of harriers and need the experience of returners Maureen O'Connor, Kristin Brouillette and Collette Groux to lead the rest of the team.

Also on the roster for this season are junior Lauren Lopez, sophomores Katerina Fenney, Jenna Gravel, Bella Hastings, Carina Nesen, and Sarah Ruel. Freshmen Lena Tedeschi, Sarah Krafcik, and Erin Dustin join the squad for this year.

The Brownies will face stiff competition from the rest of the region, including South Hadley, which has had an excellent

cross country squad for the last few years. West Springfield, Holyoke, Belchertown, Chicopee Comp and East Longmeadow will also be on this year's scheduled for the Brownies.

The boys cross country team had a similarly tough season with just a couple of wins in meet action, one of them coming late in the season against South Hadley High School.

While one of the top finishers from last season, Cameron Czerpak, has left, his brother Colin returns to the team this season. Colin Czerpak is a junior this season.

Ryan Feyer is one of the top seniors returning to the team this season, and Connor Lajoie and Bobby Johnston are the other returning seniors on the squad this year.

Juniors back with the team this year include Rick Dialessi, Joe Drake, Dennis Beaver, Nate Humphries and Joey Joyal.

The team also has Teddy Woods, Jacob White, Brett Forgette and Zach Dion as sophomores this season. The team will

CROSS COUNTRY | page 14

We apologize for the error.

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Golfers set to battle for Brownies

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The Agawam golf team will be a little bit younger this season, but the Brownies will still bring back some experienced golfers back to the links at Oak Ridge and Crestview golf courses.

Agawam's top returning golfer is Matteo Godek.

Godek will be a junior this season. He is hungry and coming off several good performances in tournaments all summer long.

Most recently, he participated in a tournament held at one of his home courses at Crestview Country Club. He was participating in the Connecticut Junior PGA tour at that time.

Last season, he emerged as one of the top golfers in Western Massachusetts. He would finish in a tie for ninth place. Godek appealed to the tournament director because of an ineligible player that finished above. The appeal was denied and Godek was left out of the state tournament.

Godek handled issue maturely and is fired up to have a successful junior season.

As a sophomore, Godek carded at 40 or under regularly. He went a couple of matches last year. His best scored was a 34 against Belchertown at Oak Ridge Golf Course.

Godek is the only member of the Brownies that competed in last year's tournament that is returning to the team this year. The rest of last year's tournament competitors

have graduated. Agawam went 14-5 last season during the individual matches last year.

Agawam did have some trouble with Minnechaug and Westfield last year, and the Falcons are already off to a quick 1-0 start.

Coach Bill L'Heureux said his team will be inexperienced, but with the amount of golf being played now, his team should be ready to go.

"The kids are playing a lot more in the summer than they used to," said L'Heureux. "There are a lot of opportunities for them to play with the different tournaments out there."

On the roster this season are seniors Alex Amato, Geoff Circosta and Austin Sabadosa.

Juniors included Kevin LeCuyer and Godek. There are seven sophomores and two freshmen that made the varsity this season and could see match time at some point in the season.

Jon Farrell, a sophomore, will return this season. He started in some matches last season and had a pretty good year for the Brownies.

The Brownies will open the regular season with three matches this week, including one at home Thursday at Oak Ridge Golf Course at 3 p.m. against Holyoke. Friday, the Brownies will face Chicopee at Chicopee Country Club at 3 p.m.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.

Kenne tallies lone goal for Westfield State

GORHAM, Maine – Westfield State freshman Brodie Keene, of Feeding Hills, headed home a Zack Horn free kick in the first half to tie the match at 1-1, but the U.S. Coast Guard Academy scored five straight goals to sail past the Owls by a 6-1 final score at the USM Invitational on Saturday, Sept. 6.

Westfield State falls to 0-3 on the season with the loss, while the Academy improves to 1-2.

Diamond Jaxx to hold tryouts

HAMPDEN - Western Mass Diamond Jaxx tryouts will be Saturday, Sept. 12 and Sept. 19 at 9 am for any player who will be 10-13 years old next year.

Tryouts will be held at Hampden Memorial Park, 495 Main St.

Any questions please email westernmassdiamondjaxx@aol.com

Please recycle this newspaper

SOCCER ■ from page 12

scored some key goals down the stretch, including a goal in Agawam's playoff game comeback.

As always, the Brownies will be playing a difficult schedule, including two matchups each against Northampton, Longmeadow, Chicopee Comp and West Springfield.

Agawam has a couple of challenging independent games. They will face Ludlow on Oct. 6 and Belchertown on Oct. 15. Late in the season, they will travel and face Granby, a top Division 4 team.

To open the season, Agawam played at neighbor Southwick. The Brownies started the home portion of their schedule Thursday evening when they hosted Westfield.

Coach Laura Wray-Ramos enters her 18th season at the head of the Brownies.

CROSS COUNTRY ■ from page 12

also have five freshmen joining the squad this year.

The Brownies will have a very tough start to the regular season this year, opening up the schedule with a meet on Sept. 15 against Holyoke.

The Knights will be hosting the meet at their home course of Ashley Reservoir. Holyoke boys are the defending league champion and have lost just three dual meets in the last five years.

The meet is scheduled to begin at 4 p.m. with the girls meet beginning shortly after.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.



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*National Newspaper Association Reader Survey

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Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote free events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@turley.com, fax to 413-786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Friday, Sept. 11

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL'S APPLAUSE SERIES gets underway at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. at 7 p.m. with a concert of "Hits of the American Songbook" performed by Dan Kane & Friends.

AN ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW will be held today and tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Glenmeadow Retirement, 24 Tabor Crossing, Longmeadow. Proceeds will be donated to Safe Passage, an organization that works to prevent domestic violence and offers shelter for women and children.

Saturday, Sept. 12

THE AGAWAM HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION will host a bake sale from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. to be held with its fifth annual apple pie contest at the historic Thomas Smith House, 251 North West St., Feeding Hills. Pre-registration is required for the contest by emailing AgawamHistoricalAssoc@gmail.com.

CUB SCOUT PACK 118 in Southwick will hold a bottle and can drive from 9 a.m. to noon at the Southwick Congregational Church, 488 College Highway. The Pack will also be selling different flavors of popcorn as its yearly fundraiser. For more information, call Jenn Schmidt at 413-575-9458.

Sunday, Sept. 13

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD COIN CLUB will meet at 7 p.m. in the Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Elm St. In addition to a presentation and discussion about proof United States coins, a small auction will take place and refreshments will be available. Guests welcome. For more information, call Peter Setian at 413-596-9871.

THE OLD COUNTRY ROAD BAND will perform country and blues music at 2 p.m. at North Hall, 40 Searle Road, Huntington. Open seating. \$10 at the door; students free. Wheelchair-access, air-conditioned. For more information, call 413-667-5543 or visit www.northhall-huntington.org.

Tuesday, Sept. 15

THE GFWC AGAWAM JUNIOR WOMEN'S CLUB meet at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. Social hour at 6:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 7 p.m. Guests and potential new members welcome. For more information, contact Christina Beauchemin, membership chairman, at 413-427-8784.

Wednesday, Sept. 16

THE TOBACCO VALLEY ARTISTS ASSOCIATION meeting will feature Diana Lyn Côté, who will demonstrate an oil medium called Paintstiks. It begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. All are welcome.

SPRINGFIELD UNDER THE STARS will present a showing of "The Sandlot" as part of its series of free outdoor movies, at Stearns Square park in downtown Springfield. A photo booth, refreshments and music will start at 5 p.m., followed by the movie at 6:30 p.m. For more information, visit SpringfieldDowntown.com/Springfield-Under-The-Stars.

Thursday, Sept. 17

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present "The Victorian Lady, Dressing from Corset to Gloves" featuring performance artist Kandie Carle, at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts, at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

ANDREW ZIMBALIST, SPORTS ECONOMIST will be the featured speaker at 11 a.m. at Springfield Technical Community College's Scibelli Hall Theater as part of its Ovations series. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call Philip O'Donoghue at 413-755-4233 or email pcodonoghue@stcc.edu.

Sunday, Sept. 20

ANTIQUES APPRAISAL DAY WITH KNOTTY PINE ANTIQUES from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Noble & Cooley Center for Historical Preservation, 42 Water St., Granville. For more information, call 413-357-6321.

Wednesday, Sept. 23

SPRINGFIELD UNDER THE STARS will present a showing of "The Princess Bride" as part of its series of free outdoor movies, at Stearns Square park in downtown Springfield. A photo booth, refreshments and music will start at 5 p.m., followed by the movie at 6:30 p.m. For more information, visit SpringfieldDowntown.com/Springfield-Under-The-Stars.

Thursday, Sept. 24

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present "Reflections on Classical Music Appreciation" featuring Kevin Rhodes, music director of the Springfield Symphony Orchestra, at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts, at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

Wednesday, Sept. 30

SPRINGFIELD UNDER THE STARS will present a showing of "Office Space" as part of its series of free outdoor movies, at Stearns Square park in downtown Springfield. A photo booth, refreshments and music will start at 5 p.m., followed by the movie at 6:30 p.m. For more information, visit SpringfieldDowntown.com/Springfield-Under-The-Stars.

Sunday, Oct. 4

A CARD AND COLLECTIBLE SHOW will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Chicopee Boys and Girls Club, 580 Meadow St. Admission \$1; kids under 10 free. Over 40 tables, a door prize drawing every 30 minutes, and the club is handicap accessible. For more information, call (413) 593-6046.

Wednesday, Oct. 14

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper at a cost of \$8 for adults, \$4 for children. The public is welcome.

Saturday, Oct. 17

A VENDOR FAIR will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. John the Evangelist parish center, 833 Main St. An eight-foot table will be provided at no charge. Free lunch is provided for all vendors and crafters. Application deadline is Sept. 19. For more information and applications, call Sandy at 413-786-8024.

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 361 Sumner Ave., Springfield, will host a fall craft fair from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is free. All proceeds to benefit the church.

Wednesday, Oct. 21

SU MECK, AUTHOR, will be the featured speaker at 10:10 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. at Springfield Technical Community College's Scibelli Hall Theater as part of its Ovations series. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call Philip O'Donoghue at 413-755-4233 or email pcodonoghue@stcc.edu.

Wednesday, Oct. 28

AGAWAM PARANORMAL PROGRAM at 6:30 p.m. at the Noble & Cooley Center for Historical Preservation, 42 Water St., Granville. For more information, call 413-357-6321

ONGOING

THE AGAWAM ST. PATRICK COMMITTEE meets the third Wednesday of each month, September through June, at 6:30 p.m. at St. John the Evangelist Rectory conference room, 833 Main St., Agawam. For information on how to join, call Vera Conway at 413-786-3247 or email Rosemary Sandline at rosemarysandlin@gmail.com

THE WESTFIELD FARMERS MARKET is held every Thursday afternoon from 12:30 – 6 p.m. on the lawn of the Episcopal Church of the Atonement, 36 Court St., until Oct. 8. Free parking available. Locally grown flowers, plants, vegetables, honey and bee products, maple syrup, goat meat and goats' milk products, relishes and jams, baked goods, forested pork, free range chicken and eggs, wine, hot cider donuts, and more. SNAP EBT cards accepted. A \$5 transaction will provide SNAP customers \$10 worth of credit.

ADULT DROP-IN SIT AND KNIT meets every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. No registration needed.

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 459 Mill St., Agawam, offers "Crochet Club" every other Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This club is open to all needle-workers, including crocheters, knitters, quilters, and embroiderers. For more information, call 413-786-7991.

THE LADIES GLEE CLUB AND MEN'S CHOIR at the Springfield Turnverein, 60 North Westfield St., Feeding Hills, are back to work. Practice is held every Wednesday with the ladies beginning at 7 p.m. followed by the men at 8:30 p.m. All are welcome. There is space available for anyone interested in joining.

A BREAST CANCER AND MASTECTOMY SUPPORT GROUP meets the fourth Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at 2 South Bridge Drive, Suite 1B, Agawam. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or on-line at www.survivorjourneys.org.

AN ALL CANCER SUPPORT GROUP meets the first Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7 p.m. at Sacred Heart Parish Center, 1061 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

A BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP meets the second Wednesday of each month at Heritage Woods Assisted Facility, 462 Main St., Agawam. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR CAMPER may be worth more as a donation than a trade-in. Call the Massachusetts Association for the Blind at 888-613-2777 for more information. Towing is free. All donations are tax deductible.

Agawam Senior Center

Lunch Menu

Monday, Sept. 14: Split pea soup, ham and cheese on whole-wheat, lettuce and tomato, mixed fruit.
Tuesday, Sept. 15: French toast, low-sodium turkey bacon, orange juice, muffins, cantaloupe.
Wednesday, Sept. 16: Country pie, tomato and cucumber salad, pudding.
Thursday, Sept. 17: Quiche lorraine, hash browns, coleslaw, baked good.
Friday, Sept. 18: Sweet potato-crust fish, Mediterranean sauce, scalloped potatoes, mixed vegetables, diced pears.

Calendar of Events

Monday, Sept. 14: 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9 a.m., Painting Club; 9:30 a.m., line dancing; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., bingo; 5 p.m., Zumba Gold.
Tuesday, Sept. 15: 9 a.m., exercise, knitting class, sewing class; 10 a.m., PACE, chair exercise; 12:30 p.m., movie ("The Women"), mah jongg,

ladies billiards; 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 2:30 p.m., chorus; 4:30 p.m., yoga; 6 p.m., beginner line dance.
Wednesday, Sept. 16: 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 8:30 a.m., Meet the Mayor (coffee shop); 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., Scrabble, ballroom lessons; 1:30 p.m., Agawam Golden Agers Chapter 2 meeting; 2 p.m., CPA Jack Welch available (by appt.); 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold; Tobacco Valley Artists meeting.
Thursday, Sept. 17: no quilting during September; foot care nurses available (by appt.); 9 a.m., exercise class; 10 a.m., line dancing; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., open art class, pitch; 6:30 p.m., pitch, evening line dancing.
Friday, Sept. 18: opening day of the Big E; 8 a.m., yoga; 9:15 a.m., all media art; 10 a.m., tai chi; noon, canasta; 1 p.m., pitch, cribbage; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

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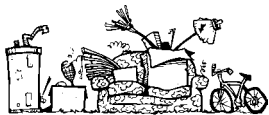
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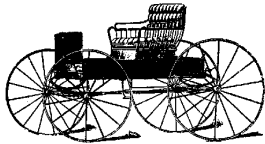
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This full-time, exempt level position ensures high quality customer service by interacting in a positive and professional manner with customers, employees and the general public and provides leadership and advocacy of customer service principles and procedures through coaching, support and training of operations department employees. This position works closely with the Management Team to provide direct operations support for day-to-day public transit operations. Competitive salary and benefits. Please review complete job description and qualification requirements under SATCo Careers at www.pvtia.com. Upload resumé and cover letter via our website or mail to SATCo, HR Dept., 2840 Main Street, Springfield, MA 01107.

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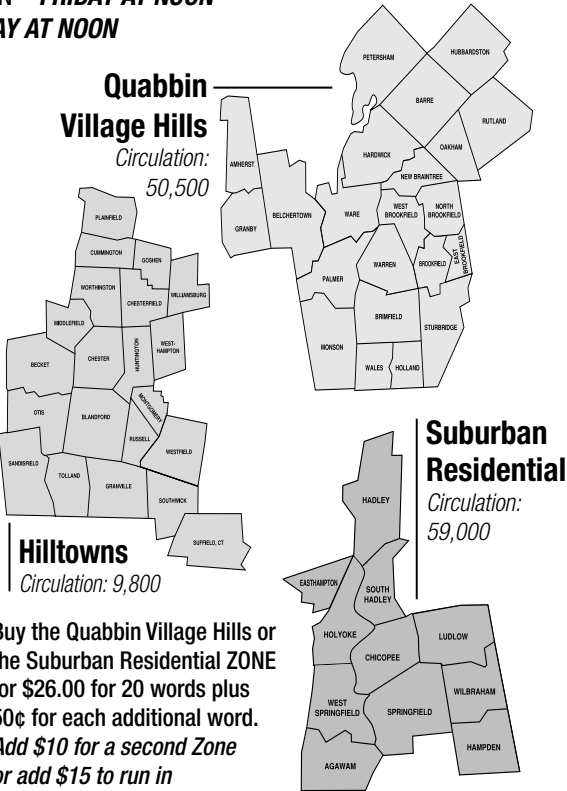
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Book of Plans 234, Page 61

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Our Town

Happy birthday, Ada



Mayor Richard Cohen helped Ada Mahoney celebrate her 106th birthday on Monday, Sept. 7, at Quail Run Estates. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Photos sought for history of Big E

David Cecchi, local historian in Agawam, is looking for help as he writes his fourth pictorial history of the region — centering, this time, on the Eastern States Exposition, the “Big E.”

To supplement images from his own collection, and publicity shots made available to him from the archives of the Eastern States Exposition, Cecchi is looking for family photos of the exposition for the book. Any and all photos will be considered, and shots from the 1936 flood, 1938 hurricane, exhibits, the midway, racing, and the Coliseum — hockey, high school graduations and other events — are of particular interest.

Cecchi, whose previous titles for Arcadia Publishing’s “Images of America” series include “Agawam and Feeding Hills” (2000), “Agawam and Feeding Hills Revisited” (2005) and “Riverside Park” (2011), has attended the Big E every one of his 50 years, even graduating from Agawam High School among the wood shavings of the Coliseum. He took part in the Exposition’s first “Agawam Day” on Sept. 14, 1989, as a member of the Agawam School Committee. As a member of the family that owns E. Cecchi Farms in Feeding Hills, he has also been an exhibitor in the Native Produce Display.

Cecchi said he understands that “people are reluctant to recognize that their family photos are part of local history, but they are a really important part. I have included these amateur photos in all my previous books. They offer a very personal perspective. Of course, I realize that at the fair, the preference may be to hold a corn dog and not a camera, so there may not be all that many photos out there.”

The author says he was honored to have



Program books from 1917, 1941 and 1947 are part of David Cecchi’s research into the Big E. SUBMITTED PHOTO

the support of exposition officials. “To be able to put this book together about this institution that I love — with their blessing — is really awesome,” he said. “I’ve been granted access to hundreds of historical photographs and documents that will really help tell the story of the fair. Noreen Tassinari, Eastern States Exposition director of marketing, and everyone I’ve met at the exposition has been great. It feels like opening day at the fair.”

Those with photos to share should contact Cecchi directly at 413-786-3236 or ceco@davidcecchi.com.

Are You Old News?



Each week the Agawam Advertiser News digs into its submitted photo archives and selects a people photo to publish. We need your help to help identify those pictured. Email your answers by Monday at noon to aan@turley.com. Please include your first and last name.

Last week’s photo: Correctly identifying Jacqueline Bouley were Norma (Cirillo) Turcotte, Larry Scherpa, Debbie Pond, Linda Hayes, Caroline Bassett, Donna Kennedy, Fran Leclerc and Geraldine Schilling-Nordal.



Local actor takes stage in whodunit

SUFFIELD — Mark Proulx of Agawam will be one of the stars of “The Mousetrap” at the Suffield Players next month.

Directed by Denise Boutin, the classic 1950s murder mystery by Agatha Christie will be performed Oct. 8, 9, 10, 16, 17, 23 and 24 at 8 p.m., and Oct. 18 at 2 p.m. In “The Mousetrap,” a group of guests is trapped at an English manor turned guest house as a snowstorm rages outside. One of the guests has murderous intentions ... but which one?

Proulx plays the role of Major Metcalf, one of the guests at the manor. Other members of the cast, all of whom are residents of Connecticut or Western Massachusetts, are Rachel Berezin as Mollie Ralston; Roger A.

Ochs as Mr. Paravicini; Shaun O’Keefe as Christopher Wren; Kelly Seip as Mrs. Boyle; Reid Sinclair as Detective Sgt. Trotter; Brianna Stronk as Miss Casewell; and Steve Wandzy as Giles Ralston.



Mark Proulx

Set design is by Denise Boutin, technical direction by Art Christian, lighting design by Jerry Zalewski, stage management by Bob Williams, and costume design by Dawn McKay.

All performances are in Mapleton Hall, 1305 Mapleton Ave., Suffield. Tickets are \$19 (\$13 on opening night). Discounts are available for groups, seniors, students and season subscribers. For reservations, call 800-289-6148 or 860-668-

0837, or visit www.suffieldplayers.org.

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